



April 2009

Publication #2

Where has the time gone? It seems as though it was just yesterday when I started on the new and exciting journey that God has called me to as Development Director at Heartland Lutheran High School! But when I look at the calendar it has been eight months! The first publication of the Development Dialogue was on December 15, 2008 and there have been so many things happening at HLHS that I thought it was time for another publication to catch all of you up on our school. Please feel free to stop in at Heartland Lutheran High School some time and join in on the excitement!

Red and Blue

Matthew 7:7 – Ask and it will be given to you; Seek and you shall find;
KNOCK and the door will be opened to you.

Our annual fund raiser has come and gone. March 29, 2009 was a special night for all that were involved. After several months of preparing we were ready to meet Kevin Sharp and see if we could carry on the momentum of excitement that has been building up since the Red and Blue in 2008.

The day of the event started off with a Meet and Greet with our speaker, Kevin Sharp, and the corporate table sponsors. The Meet and Greet was sponsored by the Heartland Lutheran Foundation and was held at Platte Valley State Bank. THANKS to both the foundation and the bank for making this part of the event a success!

The doors at HLHS were opened at 3 p.m. at which time the silent auction was started. People started checking in and by 4 p.m. the commons area was becoming very crowded with people browsing the silent auction items. Entertainment before dinner was provided by the HLHS music department. After the opening prayer by Pastor



Bremer at 5 p.m. sixty of our sixty-six students served the nearly 400 dinner guests (we sold 408 tickets) dinner that was catered by Whitefoot Catering. THANKS to the Whitefoots for another delicious meal!

After dinner it was now time for what many of us had been waiting for a long time, it was time for Kevin Sharp to speak to the crowd that had assembled. With all of our students sitting in the bleachers and the bleacher tickets that were sold we had nearly 500 in attendance. Kevin Sharp started off with two songs and during one of the songs he circulated through the crowd putting the microphone up to attendees so they could join in with the singing. Kevin then proceeded to talk to the crowd about his fight with cancer and stressed hope and love. For those of us that have had to deal



with cancer in our life or the life of a loved one, Kevin's words brought back memories of those times in our lives. But Kevin's message was about hope and love and not to quit. That is the message I was hoping for when I booked Kevin for the Red and Blue. We do not want to quit on our lives and we do NOT want to quit on Heartland Lutheran High School! Kevin finished his time with us by singing another song and then the nearly 500 attendees stood up and gave him a standing ovation.

Before the live auction started I reminded everyone what had happened exactly one year before. On March 29, 2008 it was reported on television that HLHS may have to close their doors because of financial difficulties. I went on to point out to everyone that the doors of HEARTLAND LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL are still OPEN and that we need to continue to keep them open for everyone that comes knocking at them!

I knew as soon as we started selling the first items on the live auction that we were in store for another special night. Many had said that the success of the Red and Blue 2008 was just something that happened and may not be able to be repeated. But as Kevin Sharp's five autographed books started getting bids it was apparent that 2009 was going to be a repeat of the previous Red and Blue. His books have a retail value of \$14.95 and they sold from \$100 to \$175 each!



A few of the other highlights from the live auction:

1. Two football tickets to NU vs OU game and overnight stay selling for \$3,500
2. Plates of rolls selling for \$200 to \$525
3. Autographed Basketball Extravaganza 77 basketball selling for \$1,000
4. 100 bushels of corn selling for 15 times!
5. Live auction items sold for 172% of the value!

We tried something new this year by posting our silent auction items online and allowing people to bid online for them. The online auction ended up being a great way to put our items out to the public to be viewed and provided a way for our donors to get some advertising. We ended up selling three

items online. Two of them went to New York and the other one went to Maryland. THANKS to Roger Buck for all of the help he did on the online auction.

I would like to take this moment to THANK everyone that was part of this year's Red and Blue. THANKS to all the volunteers, committee members, donors of auction items, donors of monetary gifts, attendees, corporate table sponsors, GENEROUS bidders, and the students of Heartland Lutheran High School. THANKS for making the Red and Blue memorable and successful!

Red and Blue 2009 surpassed all previous events and brought in a total of a little more than \$98,000 before expenses. I know it did not reach the goal of \$100,000 that I challenged everyone with but after two very successful years in a row I am even more confident that we can groom our Red and Blue events to raise more than \$100,000! We have already started kicking around some ideas to improve the event next year and we have a Red and Blue meeting planned for April 20th to discuss this year's event and how to make the future ones better. It is not too early to start thinking about Red and Blue 2010!

March 21, 2010 – Speaker is Shawn Harper – Check out his website at:
www.shawnharperministries.org/home.html



BASKETBALL EXTRAVAGANZA 77

In the publication of December 2008 I had mentioned that we were over \$67,000 raised with this event and that we had a dream goal of \$77,000. WOW....on December 21, 2008 my sister asked how much we needed to reach a dollar amount of all sevens. We were less than \$200 from that amount and she proceeded to give me a check so that our final amount raised with this event was \$77,777.77. Look at the amount.....SEVEN sevens!!!! I had not even realized it until someone emailed me congratulations about reaching seven sevens.

Also in December 2008 the Grand Island Independent was taking votes online for the top News Story of 2008 and the Favorite Sports Story of 2008. Basketball Extravaganza received the most votes in both categories! THANKS to all of you that voted.

Angel Food Ministries

On February 25, 2009 we were officially recognized as a host site of Angel Food Ministries. This means that HLHS will now earn \$1.00 for each box of food sold and soon as we continue to grow in number of boxes sold each month the truck will deliver the food here instead of us driving to Lincoln each month to pick it up. Before I could send this out, on April 15th I received a phone call from Angel Food Ministries and they are now going to deliver to Grand Island starting in April!

When I was approached about becoming involved with this back in December 2008 I was a little skeptical. I thought to myself.....selling food.....did not sound like much fun. But I am here today to tell you that I do not regret the decision and am VERY happy that Heartland Lutheran High School is involved in this ministry. It is an amazing feeling to be helping out people that really need help and also providing food for others that just want to save money on their food expenditures! This is truly a ministry for HLHS to reach out into Grand Island and the surrounding communities. It is our chance to do something for others!

On April 2, 2009 we finished the set up to allow people to order their monthly orders online by using debit cards and credit cards. We will also be accepting food stamps in the next month or two.

Here is a recap of what has happened with the volume of food sold since we started:

Month	Number of Boxes Sold	Number of Orders	Dollar Amount of Food Sold
December 2008	23	11	\$622.00
January 2009	17	11	\$447.00
February 2009	62	27	\$1,656.00
March 2009	159	69	\$4,161.00
April 2009	405	185	\$10,549.00

As you can see the volumes are increasing very rapidly. But think about this a moment. In April 2009 there were 185 orders. How many families are in Grand Island? How many families are in the surrounding communities? How many families are in our twelve association churches? There is POTENTIAL for this ministry to become a VERY BIG part of Heartland Lutheran High School!

For more information about this ministry please visit our website at www.heartlandlutheran.org and click the Angel Food Ministries tab on the left. PLEASE tell others about this opportunity.



HLHS Sundays

We are continuing to visit each of our association churches and conducting a presentation of what is happening at HLHS. These visits have been received very well and we have had many positive comments about them. We have four more to do before the school year comes to an end.

Hoops Classic 2009

On March 14th and 15th we conducted our 13th annual basketball tournament for girls and boys in the 4th through 8th grades. It does not seem like it has been that many years ago when I started this basketball tournament to raise funds for the Trinity Lutheran Boosters Club. In 2005 the tournament was combined with the Heartland Lutheran Boosters Club because of my coaching career change from Trinity to Heartland Lutheran. The last two years the games were moved to our two schools instead of having them at GISH.

This year we again had a large turnout of 27 teams and 48 games. I turned away eleven teams that tried to get in our tournament after the deadline and all the information was sent out to the teams that were participating.

THANKS to all of the volunteers that officiated games, collected admissions, operated score clocks, kept scorebooks, and worked in concessions. It is because of all of our volunteers that this event continues to be successful.

The weekend produced \$2,563.37 for each school plus the amount of money collected by each Boosters Club from concessions.

Winter Sports

The girls' basketball team had the most wins in school history. Thanks to Terry Frederickson and Denise Winsterman for coaching the team this year!

In case you have not heard, the wrestling team qualified two out of our three wrestlers for STATE this year! Kyle Dibbern and Jacob Schwan qualified for state and Brad Einspahr came close to qualifying. Jacob Schwan placed 6th at state making him the first state medalist in school history! GREAT job team and coaches!

OK...you knew I could not talk about sports without mentioning boys' basketball! The team finished the year with their best season record in school history by finishing with 13 wins and 8 losses. They finished 2nd in the Holiday Tournament and finished 3rd in the Conference Tournament.



Future Students of Heartland Lutheran High School

We currently have 22 freshman signed up for the 2009/2010 school year! We are anticipating even more which makes this the largest class ever at Heartland Lutheran High School! We also have some transfers from other schools for the next school year. We are continuing to receive calls inquiring about our school and it is very exciting for me to talk to prospective students and parents. I believe that we offer many opportunities to all that want to attend!

Continue to spread the word about HLHS and invite others to attend. There will be an Open House on May 5, 2009 at 7 p.m. Bring someone new to our school to see what is offered at HLHS!

Miscellaneous Items

June & July 2009	Football, volleyball, cheer/dance, and basketball camps – check website
August 1, 2009	Annual HLHS Boosters Club Golf Tournament
September 13, 2009	Septemberfest
March 21, 2010	RED and BLUE 2010

Remember.....

Next year is our **10th** year of providing Christ-centered education

WHERE FAITH and EDUCATION MEET!

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Lloyd W. Wagnitz
Development Director
Heartland Lutheran High School
3900 West Husker Hwy
Grand Island, NE 68803
308-385-3900
development@heartlandlutheran.org